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(54) Customization by automated resource substitution.

(57) An object based data processing system including an extensible set of object types and a corresponding set of "object managers" (196) wherein each object manager is a program for operating with the data stored in a corresponding type of object. The object managers in general support at least a standard set of operations. Any program can effect performance of these standard operations on objects of any type by making an "invocation" request. In response to an invocation request, object management services (194, 218) (which are available to all object managers) identifies and invokes an object manager that is suitable for performing the requested operation on the specified type of data. A mechanism is provided for linking data from one object into another object. An object catalog (252) includes both information about objects and about links between objects. Data interchange services (812) are provided for communicating data between objects of different types, using a set of standard data interchange formats. A matchmaker facility (810) permits two processes that are to cooperate in a data interchange operation identify each other and to identify data formats they have in common. A facility (222) is

provided for matching shared data "resources". Customized versions of resources can be created and co-exist with standard resources. A resource retrieval function determines whether a customized or a standard resource is to be returned in response to each request for a resource.

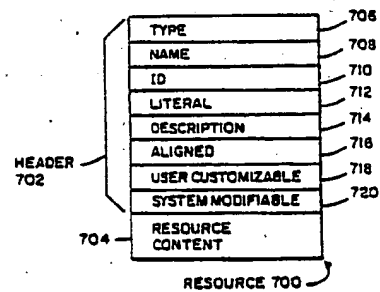


FIG. 10A

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## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number

EP 88 11 3496

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int. Cl.4)
A	COMPUTER COMMUNICATION REVIEW (Proc. of the ACM SIGCOMM'87 Workshop) vol. 17, no. 5, August 1987, NEW YORK US pages 243 - 244; R. SCHANTZ et al.: "Resource management in the Cronus distributed operating system" * the whole document *	1-5	G06F9/46
A	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 8, no. 163 (P-290)(1600) 27 July 1984, & JP-A-59 058552 (FUJITSU K.K.) 04 April 1984, * the whole document *	1-5	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int. Cl.4)
			G06F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search BERLIN		Date of completion of the search 14 NOVEMBER 1990	Examiner DURAND, J
<b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b> X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application I : document cited for other reasons A : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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